

DEC 13 2004

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Dated: December 10, 2004 Signature: Brent E. Matthias

(Brent E. Matthias)

ITW
Attorney Docket No.: 06005/39434
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Peter K. Merrill et al.

Application No.: 10/602,386

Filed: June 24, 2003

Art Unit: 3751

For: ELECTRICAL GROUNDING ASSEMBLY
FOR CONTROL VALVE

Examiner: Peter T. Devore

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application, AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs first, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (37 CFR 1.97(c)).

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

A copy of only those references listed below is attached:

For. Doc No.	Ctry	Patentee/Applicant	Publication Date
2398241	FR	Gachot	February 16, 1979
1,151,215	GB	Sherlock et al.	May 7, 1969
1,425,617	GB	Nagano	February 18, 1976

Other Documents
Copy of International Search Report for International Patent Application No. PCT/US04/019966, dated November 16, 2004, 8 pages.
Copy of Written Opinion for International Patent Application No. PCT/US04/019966, dated November 16, 2004, 5 pages.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

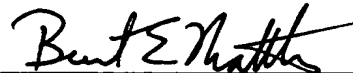
Application No.: 10/602,386

Attorney Docket No.: 06005/39434

Applicants believe that no fee is due at this time. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 06005/39434. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: December 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Brent E. Matthias

Registration No.: 41,974

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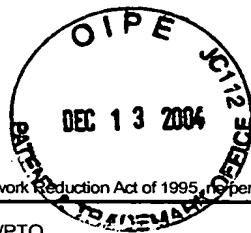
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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/602,386
				Filing Date	June 24, 2003
				Inventors	Peter K. Merrill et al.
				Art Unit	3751
				Examiner Name	Peter T. Devore
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	06005/39434

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)		
		4,566,482	01-28-1986	Stunkard
		4,637,421	01-20-1987	Stunkard

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	English-language Translation
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		FR 2398241	02-16-1979	Gachot	Not available
		GB 1,151,215	05-07-1969	Sherlock et al.	N/A
		GB 1,425,617	02-18-1976	Nagano	N/A

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Copy of International Search Report for International Patent Application No. PCT/US04/019966, dated November 16, 2004, 8 pages.	
		Copy of Written Opinion for International Patent Application No. PCT/US04/019966, dated November 16, 2004, 5 pages.	

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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